GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:164
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2016
Damage to Railway Property
Meghwal Shri Arjun Ram ;Singh Shri Lallu

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains cancelled or diverted during the recent Reservation agitation in some parts of Northern India;

(b) the total loss suffered by Railways on account of damage to properties or cancellation of tickets during the above period;

(c) whether the negligence of railway security forces and State administration have come to the notice of the Union Government and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any mechanism is in place to recover damages from those who indulge in riots, arson and looting/damage to public properties and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures taken by Railways to protect its property from such agitations in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI SURESH PRABHAKAR PRABHU)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.
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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF STARRED QUESTION NO. 164 BY SHRI LALLU SINGH AND SHRI ARJUN MEGHWAL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 09.03.2016 REGARDING DAMAGE TO RAILWAY PROPERTY.

(a) During the period of active agitation from 12-24 Feb 2016, 2134 (1033 Mail/Express & 1101 Passenger) train services were fully cancelled and 259 Mail/Express trains were diverted. In addition to this, 430 (229 Mail/Express & 201 Passenger) train services were partially cancelled.

(b) The total loss suffered by Railways on account of damage to property and cancellation of tickets during the recent Jat agitation is about `55.92 crores.

(c) Policing on Railways is a State subject. Prevention of crime, registration of cases, their investigation in Railway premises as well as on running trains are the statutory responsibility of the State Police, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the State concerned. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of GRP by deploying their staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and for access control duties at important and sensitive railway stations. There was no negligence on the part of Railway Protection Force.

(d) No mechanism exists in Railways for recovery of damage from those who indulge in riots, arson and looting/damage to public property.

(e) Measures are taken to protect the railway property from such agitations in future:-

1. Regular sharing of intelligence is done in co-ordination with Intelligence Bureau, Local Police and State intelligence agencies to ensure smooth functioning of railways.
2. Necessary arrangement are made to protect the Railway property in coordination with Civil Police and GRP at affected stations/ sections.
3. RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by GRP and to deal with such situations.
4. Legal action is taken against the Offenders/agitators under relevant legal provisions.
5. Coordination is also done with Gram Pradhan as well as local villagers to collect information during such agitations.
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